

Docket No.: 4541-004

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Koji HIROKAWA

Serial No. Not yet assigned

Filed: January 3, 2002

For: DISINTEGRATIVE CORE FOR HIGH PRESSURE CASTING, METHOD FOR
MANUFACTURING THE SAME, AND METHOD FOR EXTRACTING THE SAME

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner For Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to examination of the above-referenced application, please amend the
application:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 4 to 8 as follows:

4. (Amended) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the water-soluble
salt is melted at a temperature higher by 30 ~ 80 °C than that of its melting temperature and
solidified in a mold.

5. (Amended) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the mold is made of
graphite and heated to half of the melting temperature of the salt.

6. (Amended) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the water-soluble
salt is processed into a powder with a particle size of 40 ~ 100 µm, introduced into the mold
and molded under a pressure of 80 ~ 100 Mpa.